

Trusting Our Father

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Kumwamini Baba Yetu

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Wa Sabini

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God trusts us to make many important decisions, and in all matters He asks us to trust Him.

Mungu hutuamini sisi kufanya chaguzi nyingi muhimu, na katika mambo yote, anatumia tumwamini Yeye.

On June 1, 1843, Addison Pratt left Nauvoo, Illinois, to preach the gospel in the Hawaiian Islands, leaving his wife, Louisa Barnes Pratt, to care for their young family.

In Nauvoo, as persecutions intensified, forcing the Saints to leave, and later at Winter Quarters as they prepared to migrate to the Salt Lake Valley, Louisa faced the decision of whether to make the journey. It would have been easier to stay and to wait for Addison to return than to travel alone.

On both occasions, she sought guidance from the prophet, Brigham Young, who encouraged her to go. Despite the great difficulty and her personal reluctance, she successfully made the journey each time.

Initially, Louisa found little joy in traveling. However, she soon began to welcome the green prairie grass, colorful wildflowers, and patches of ground along the riverbanks. “The gloom on my mind wore gradually away,” she recorded, “and there was not a more mirthful woman in the whole company.”

Louisa’s story has deeply inspired me. I admire her willingness to set aside her personal preferences, her ability to trust God, and how exercising her faith helped her to see the situation differently.

She has reminded me that we have a loving Father in Heaven, who cares for us wherever we are, and that we can trust Him more than anyone or anything else.

Mnamo Juni 1, 1843, Addison Pratt aliondoka Nauvoo, Illinois, kwenda kuhubiri injili huko Visiwa vya Hawaii, akimwacha mke wake, Louisa Barnes Pratt, kuitunza familia yao changa.

Mateso yalipoongezeka huko Nauvoo, yakiwalazimisha Watakatifu kuondoka, na baadaye huko Winter Quarters walipokuwa wakijiandaa kuhamia Bonde la Salt Lake, Louisa alikabiliwa na uamuzi wa kusafiri au la. Ingelikuwa rahisi kubaki na kumsubiri Addison ili arudi kuliko kusafiri peke yake.

Katika matukio yote mawili, alitafuta ushauri wa nabii Brigham Young, ambaye alimtia moyo kusafiri. Licha ya ugumu mkubwa na kusita kwake binafsi, kwa mafanikio alifanya safari kila wakati.

Mwanzoni, Louisa alipata shangwe kidogo katika safari. Hata hivyo, punde akaanza kukaribia, uwanda mpana wa nyasi za kijani, maua pori yenye rangi rangi, na vishamba vidogo kwenye kingo za mito. “Mawazo yangu ya huzuni yalianza kutoweka pole pole,” aliandika, “na hapakuwa tena na mwanamke alikuwa bila furaha katika kombania yote.”

Hadithi ya Louisa imenivutia kwa kina sana. Nimestaajibishwa na utayari wake wa kuweka kando mapendeleo yake binafsi, uwezo wake wa kumwamini Mungu, na jinsi kutumia imani yake kulivyomsaidia kuona hali kwa njia tofauti.

Yeye amenikumbusha kwamba tunaye Baba mpendwa wa Mbinguni, ambaye anatumia mahali popote tulipo, na kwamba tunaweza kumwamini Yeye zaidi kuliko mtu au kitu chochote.

The Source of Truth

God trusts us to make many important decisions, and in all matters He asks us to trust Him. This is especially difficult when our judgment or public opinion differs from His will for His children.

Some suggest that we should redraw the lines between what is right and what is wrong because they say that truth is relative, reality is self-defined, or God is so generous that He does not actually care about what we do.

As we seek to understand and accept God's will, it is helpful to remember that the boundaries between right and wrong are not for us to define. God has established these boundaries Himself, based on eternal truths for our benefit and blessing.

The desire to change God's eternal truth has a long history. It started before the world began, when Satan rebelled against God's plan, seeking selfishly to destroy human agency. Following this pattern, people like Sherem, Nehor, and Korihor have argued that faith is foolish, revelation is irrelevant, and whatever we want to do is right. Sadly, so very often these deviations from God's truth have led to great sorrow.

While some things may depend on context, not everything does. President Russell M. Nelson has consistently taught that God's saving truths are absolute, independent, and defined by God Himself.

Our Choice

Whom we choose to trust is one of life's important decisions. King Benjamin instructed his people, "Believe in God; believe that he is ... ; believe that he has all wisdom ... ; believe that man doth not comprehend all the things which the Lord can comprehend."

Fortunately, we have the scriptures and guidance from living prophets to help us understand God's truth. If clarification beyond what we have is needed, God provides it through His prophets. And He will respond to our sincere prayers through the Holy Ghost as we seek to understand truths we do not yet fully appreciate.

Chanzo cha Ukweli

Mungu hutuamini sisi kufanya chaguzi nyini muhimu, na katika mambo yote, anatutaka tumwamini Yeye. Hii ni vigumu zaidi hasa wakati uamuzi wetu, au maoni ya umma, yanatofautiana na mapenzi Yake kwa watoto Wake.

Baadhi wanapendekeza kwamba tunapaswa kuweka upya mipaka kati ya kilicho sahihi na kisicho sahihi kwa sababu wanasema ukweli unaweza kulinganishwa, uhalisia unajieleza wenyewe, au Mungu ni mwema sana kiasi kwamba Yeye hajali kuhusu kile tunachofanya.

Wakati tunapotafuta kuelewa na kukubali mapenzi ya Mungu, inasaidia kukumbuka kwamba kuelezea mipaka kati ya sahihi na kisicho sahihi si jukumu letu. Mungu ameweka mipaka hiyo Yeye Mwenyewe, kulingana na kweli za milele kwa faida na baraka zetu.

Hamu ya kuzibadili kweli za Mungu za milele ina historia ndefu. Ilianza kabla ya ulimwengu kuanza, wakati Shetani alipoasi dhidi ya mpango wa Mungu, akitafuta kwa ubinafsi kuharibu haki ya mwanadamu ya kujiamulia. Kwa mpangilio kama huu, watu kama Sheremu, Nehori, na Korihori wametoa sababu kwamba imani ni upumbavu, ufunuo si muhimu, na chote tunachotaka kufanya ni sahihi. Kwa bahati mbaya, mara kwa mara, uchepukaji wa namna hii kutoka kwenye kweli za Mungu umesababisha huzuni kuu.

Wakati baadhi ya mambo yanaweza kutegemea muktadha, siyo kila kitu kinahitaji hivyo. Rais Russell M. Nelson kwa uthabiti amefundisha kwamba kweli za Mungu zenye kuokoa ni dhahiri, zenye kujitegemea, na kufafanuliwa na Mungu Mwenyewe.

Uchaguzi Wetu

Tunayechagua kumwamini ni moja ya chaguzi muhimu za maisha. Mfalme Benjamini aliwafundisha watu wake, "Mwamini Mungu; amini kwamba yupo ... ; amini kwamba anayo hekima yote ... ; amini kwamba mwanadamu hafahamu vitu vyote Bwana anavyoweza kufahamu."

Kwa bahati nzuri, tunayo maandiko na mwongozo kutoka kwa manabii walio hai ili kutusaidia kufahamu kweli za Mungu. Kama ufa-fanuzi zadi ya tulionao unahitajika, Mungu hutoa kupitia manabii Wake. Na Yeye atajibu sala zetu za dhati kupitia Roho Mtakatifu tunapota-futa kuelewa kweli ambazo bado hatujazielewa

Elder Neil L. Andersen once taught that we should not be surprised “if at times [our] personal views are not initially in harmony with the teachings of the Lord’s prophet. These are moments of learning,” he said, “of humility, when we go to our knees in prayer. We walk forward in faith, trusting in God, knowing that with time we will receive more spiritual clarity from our Heavenly Father.”

At all times, it is helpful to remember Alma’s teaching that God gives His word according to the attention and effort we devote to it. If we heed God’s word, we will receive more; if we ignore His counsel, we will receive less and less until we have none. This loss of knowledge does not mean that the truth was wrong; rather, it shows that we have lost the capacity to understand it.

Look to the Savior

In Capernaum, the Savior taught about His identity and mission. Many found His words difficult to hear, leading them to turn their backs and “[walk] no more with him.”

Why did they walk away?

Because they did not like what He said. So, trusting their own judgment, they walked away, denying themselves blessings that would have come had they stayed.

It is easy for our pride to come between us and eternal truth. When we don’t understand, we can pause, let our feelings settle, and then choose how to respond. The Savior urged us to “look unto [Him] in every thought; doubt not, fear not.” When we focus on the Savior, our faith can start to overcome our concerns.

As President Dieter F. Uchtdorf encouraged us to do: “Please, first doubt your doubts before you doubt your faith. We must never allow doubt to hold us prisoner and keep us from the divine love, peace, and gifts that come through faith in the Lord Jesus Christ.”

Blessings Come to Those Who Stay

As the disciples walked away from the Savior that day, He then asked the Twelve, “Will ye also go away?”

kikamilifu.

Mzee Neil L. Andersen aliwahi kufundisha kwamba hatupaswi kushangaa “kama nyakati fulani mtazamo [wetu] binafsi mwanzoni hauafiki-ani na mafundisho ya nabii wa Bwana. Hizi ni nyakati za kujifunza,” alisema “za unyenyekevu, wakati tunapopiga magoti kusali. Tunasonga mbele kwa imani, tukimwamini Mungu, tukijua kwamba baada ya muda tutapokea ufasaha zaidi wa kiroho kutoka kwa Baba wa Mbinguni.”

Nyakati zote, itasaidia kukumbuka mafundisho ya Alma kwamba Mungu anatoa neno kulingana na usikivu na jitihada tunayotoa kwa neno Lake. Kama tunatii neno lake, tutapokea zaidi, kama tunapuuza ushauri Wake, tutapokea kidogo na kidogo zaidi hadi hatupokei chochote. Upotevu huu wa maarifa haimaanishi kwamba ukweli ulikuwa sio sahihi badala yake, inaonyesha kwamba tumepoteza uwezo wa kuelewa ukweli huo.

Mtegemee Mwokozi

Huko Kapernaumu, Mwokozi alifundisha kuhusu utambulisho Wake na misheni Yake. Wengi waliona maneno Yake kuwa magumu kusikiliza, yakiwapeleka kwenye kugeuza migongo yao na “[kutotembea] pamoja na Yeye.”

Kwa nini waliondoka?

Kwa sababu hawakupenda kitu alichokisema. Hivyo, wakiadini uamuzi wao wenyewe, walienda zao, wakijinyima wenyewe baraka ambazo zingekuja kwao kama wangebaki.

Ni rahisi kwa kiburi chetu kuja katikati yetu sisi na ukweli wa milele. Tunapokuwa hatuelewi, tunaweza kusimama, kuruhusu hisia zetu zitulie, na kisha kuchagua jinsi ya kujibu. Mwokozi anatusihi “tumtegemee [Yeye] katika kila wazo, tusiogope.” Tunapofokasi kwa Mwokozi, imani yetu inaweza kuanza kushinda wasiwasi wetu.

Kama Rais Dieter F. Uchtdorf alivyotuhimiza kufanya: “tafadhali, kwanza tilia shaka mashaka yako kabla ya kutilia shaka imani yako. Kamwe tusiruhusu mashaka yatushikilie mateka na kutuzuia kupata upendo wa kiungu, amani, na karama zinazokuja kupitia imani katika Bwana Yesu Kristo.”

Baraka Huja kwa Wale Wanaobakia

Wakati siku ile wanafunzi wakiondoka kutoka kwa Mwokozi, Yeye kisha akawauliza wale Kumi na Wawili, “Je, ninyi nanyi mwataka kuondoka?”

Peter answered:

“Lord, to whom shall we go? thou hast the words of eternal life.

“And we believe and are sure that thou art that Christ, the Son of the living God.”

Now, the Apostles lived in the same world, and they faced the same social pressures as the disciples who walked away. However, in this moment, they chose their faith and trusted God, thus preserving blessings God gives to those who stay.

Perhaps you, like me, sometimes find yourself on both sides of this decision. When we find it difficult to understand or embrace God’s will, it is comforting to remember that He loves us as we are, wherever we are. And He has something better for us. If we reach out to Him, He will assist us.

While reaching out to Him can be difficult, just as the father who sought healing for his son was told by the Savior, “All things are possible to him that believeth.” In our moments of struggle, we too can cry out, “Help thou [my] unbelief.”

Submitting Our Will to His

Elder Neal A. Maxwell once taught that “the submission of one’s will is really the only uniquely personal thing we have to place on God’s altar.” No wonder King Benjamin was so eager that his people become “as a child, submissive, meek, humble, patient, full of love, willing to submit to all things which the Lord seeth fit to inflict upon him, even as a child doth submit to his father.”

As always, the Savior set the perfect example for us. With a heavy heart, and knowing the painful work He had to do, He submitted to His Father’s will, fulfilling His messianic mission and opening the promise of eternity to you and me.

The choice to submit our will to God’s is an act of faith that lies at the heart of our discipleship. In making that choice, we discover that our agency is not diminished; rather, it is magnified and rewarded by the presence of the Holy Ghost, who brings purpose, joy, peace, and hope we can

Petro akajibu:

“Bwana, twende kwa nani? Wewe unayo maneno ya uzima wa milele.

“Nasi tumesadiki, tena tumejua ya kuwa wewe ndiwe Kristo, Mwana wa Mungu aliye hai.”

Mitume wale waliishi katika ulimwengu ule ule, na walikabiliana na mashinikizo yale yale ya kijamii kama ya wale wanafunzi walioenda zao. Hata hivyo, katika wakati huu, walichagua imani yao na kumwamini Mungu, na hivyo kujihi-fadhia baraka ambazo Mungu huwapa wanaobaki.

Pengine wewe, kama mimi, wakati mwingine unajikuta ukiwa pande zote mbili za uamuzi huu. Tunapona kwamba ni vigumu kuelewa au kukumbatia mapenzi ya Mungu, ni ya faraja kukumbuka kwamba Yeye anatupenda sisi jinsi tulivyo, popote tulipo. Na Yeye ana kitu kilicho bora kwa ajili yetu sisi. Kama tutamfikia Yeye, Yeye atatusaidia.

Wakati kumfikia Yeye inaweza kuwa vigumu, kama vile yule baba aliyetafuta uponyaji kwa ajili ya mwanae alivyoambiwa na Mwokozi “mambo yote yanawezekana kwake yeye aminiye,” Katika nyakati zetu za masumbuko, nasi pia tunaweza kupaza sauti, “Nisaide kutokuamini [kwangu].”

Kuweka Mapenzi Yetu Chini ya Yale Yake.

Mzee Neal A. Maxwell wakati fulani alifundisha kwamba “uwekaji wa mapenzi ya mtu chini ndicho kitu binafsi cha kipekee tulicho nacho cha kuweka juu ya madhabahu ya Mungu.” Ndio maana Mfalme Benjamini alikuwa na shauku kubwa kwamba watu wake wawe “kama mtoto mdogo, mtiifu, mpole, mnyenyekevu, mvumilivu, mwenye upendo tele, aliye tayari kukubali vitu vyote ambayo Bwana anaona sahihi kuyaweka juu yake, hata kama vile mtoto hunyenyekea kwa baba yake.”

Mara zote, Mwokozi huwa mfano kamili kwa ajili yetu. Akiwa na moyo mzito, akijua kazi ya uchungu iliyompasa kufanya, Yeye alijinyenyekeza kwenye mapenzi ya Baba Yake, akitimiza kazi Yake ya kimasiya na kufungua ahadi ya umilele kwako wewe na mimi.

Uchaguzi wa kuweka mapenzi yetu chini ya mapenzi ya Mungu ni kitendo cha imani ambacho kipo kwenye moyo wa uanafunzi wetu. Katika kufanya uchaguzi huo, tunagundua kwamba haki yetu ya kujiamulia haipunguzwi, badala yake, inakuzwa na kupewa thawabu kwa uwepo

find nowhere else.

Several months ago, a stake president and I visited a sister in his stake and her young adult son. After years away from the Church, wandering difficult and unfriendly paths, she had returned. During our visit, we asked her why she had come back.

“I had made a mess of my life,” she said, “and I knew where I needed to be.”

I then asked her what she had learned in her journey.

With some emotion, she shared that she had learned that she needed to attend church long enough to break the habit of not coming and that she needed to stay until it was where she wanted to be. Her return was not easy, but as she exercised faith in the Father’s plan, she felt the Spirit return.

And then she added, “I have learned for myself that God is good and that His ways are better than mine.”

I bear witness of God, our Eternal Father, who loves us; of His Son, Jesus Christ, who saved us. They know our hurts and challenges. They will never forsake us and know perfectly how to succor us. We can be of good cheer as we trust Them more than anyone or anything else. In the sacred name of Jesus Christ, amen.

wa Roho Mtakatifu, ambaye huleta dhumuni, shangwe, amani, na tumaini ambavyo hatuwezi kuvipata pengine popote.

Miezi kadhaa iliyopita, mimi na rais wa kigingi tulimtembelea dada mmoja na kijana wake mkubwa katika kigingi chao. Baada ya miaka mingi nje ya Kanisa, wakitangatanga kwenye njia ngumu, na zisizo rafiki, dada alirejea. Wakati wa kumtembelea kwetu, tulimuuliza kwa nini amerejea.

“Niliyavuruga maisha yangu,” alisema, “na nilijua nilihitaji kuwa wapi.”

Kisha nilimwuliza amejifunza nini katika safari yake.

Akiwa na hisia, alitushirikisha kwamba amejifunza kwamba alihitajika kuhudhuria Kani-sani vya kutosha ili kuvunja tabia ya kutokufika Kanisani na kwamba alihitaji kubaki hadi pataka-pokuwa mahali alipotaka kuwa. Kurudi kwake hakukuwa rahisi, lakini kadiri alivyotumia imani katika mpango wa Baba, alihisi Roho akimrudia.

Kisha akaongeza, “Nimejua mwenyewe kwamba Mungu ni mwema na kwamba njia Zake ni bora kuliko zangu.”

Ninatoa ushuhuda wangu juu ya Mungu, Baba yetu wa Milele ambaye anatupenda, juu ya Mwanawe, Yesu Kristo, ambaye alituokoa sisi. Wanayajua maumivu yetu na changamoto zetu. Hawatatuacha kamwe na wanajua kikamili-fu jinsi ya kutusaidia. Tunaweza kujipa moyo, tunapowaamini Wao zaidi kuliko yeyote au kitu kingine chochote Katika jina takatifu la Yesu Kristo, amina.